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obtained. The cooperation of the members of the board was promised for this work, and it is expected that the institute will take it up soon.

#### BERMUDA BIOLOGICAL EXPEDITION

By an arrangement with the Bermuda Natural History Society, opportunity is offered for a limited number of instructors and research students in zoology and botany to spend a few weeks at the Bermuda Biological Station this summer.

Members of the expedition will sail from New York on the steamer *Bermudian* (Quebec Steamship Co.) at 11 A.M. on Wednesday, June 19, arriving in Bermuda June 21, and returning will sail on August 7. Those who can not sail on June 19, may do so two weeks later—July 3.

The expense will be \$107 for first-class passage from New York to Bermuda and return, and for board and lodging at the Islands six weeks and five days. For the shorter time—four weeks and five days in Bermuda—the expense will be \$90. Payments are to be made to the undersigned,—fifty dollars twenty days before sailing, the balance on arriving in Bermuda.

For further information apply to  
E. L. MARK

109 IRVING STREET,  
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

#### MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON SEISMOLOGY

THE initial meeting of the committee on seismology of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, was called to order in the council room of the Cosmos Club, Washington, D. C., at 10 o'clock on April 19, 1907. There were present L. A. Bauer, W. W. Campbell, J. F. Hayford, W. H. Hobbs, A. C. Lawson, C. F. Marvin, W. J. McGee and H. F. Reid. The members of the committee unable to attend the meeting were C. E. Dutton, G. K. Gilbert, L. M. Hoskins, T. A. Jaggar, Otto Klotz, C. J. Rockwood, Jr., and R. S. Tarr.

Mr. H. F. Reid was made temporary chairman, and in the deliberations of the com-

mittee which continued throughout the day, the counsel was sought of the heads of the principal government and other bureaus likely to be instrumental in furthering the objects before the committee. O. H. Tittmann, superintendent of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey; G. O. Smith, director of the U. S. Geological Survey; C. D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and R. S. Woodward, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, were all for a portion of the time in attendance upon the meeting and expressed their approval of the plans and purposes of the committee. Willis L. Moore, chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau, whose counsel was sought, could not be reached.<sup>1</sup> The following resolutions were adopted by the committee: (1) In the judgment of the committee its functions should be regarded as initiatory and advisory. (2) In the judgment of the committee the time has come for asking the support of the federal government in seismological work. (3) This seismological work requires a cooperation of the various scientific bureaus of the government. (4) The appropriations for seismological stations should be made through the U. S. Weather Bureau, and the results of the observations should appear in its publications. (5) A subcommittee of three, to include the chairman of the committee, should confer with the chief of the Weather Bureau, the superintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and the director of the Geological Survey with reference to framing the legislation providing for seismological stations and the publication of observations, as recommended in the preceding resolution.

A permanent organization of the committee was effected by the election of H. F. Reid, chairman, and William H. Hobbs, secretary.

The following subcommittees were named: (1) A committee to determine the best form or forms of seismograph for the seismological stations to be established—Messrs. Reid, Marvin and Bauer. (2) A committee of three members with power to add to its number, to report as to what action is deemed desirable

<sup>1</sup> Chief Moore later expressed his hearty approval of the committee's plans.

in reference to recommendations concerning earthquake-proof construction—Messrs. Lawson, McGee and Campbell. (3) A committee for carrying out resolution 5—Messrs. Reid, Marvin and Hayford.

The committee then adjourned to reassemble during the meeting of the American Association in December next, when the association will be asked to make a grant for defraying the necessary expenses of the committee.

WILLIAM H. HOBBS,  
*Secretary*

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY has been elected an honorary member of the Academy of Sciences of Christiania.

THE degree of doctor of science will be conferred by Cambridge University on Sir Clements Robert Markham, Colonel Sir Thomas Hungerford Holdich and Sir Thomas Richard Fraser, professor of materia medica and of clinical medicine in the University of Edinburgh.

THE Royal Institution has awarded the Actonian prize of one hundred guineas to Madame Curie.

M. HENRI POINCARÉ, professor of mathematical astronomy at the University of Paris, has been appointed a member of the Council of the Teaching of Fine Arts in the room of the late M. Berthelot.

DR. FRANK BILLINGS, dean of the Rush Medical College, University of Chicago, has been elected president of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis.

DR. GEORGE A. PIERSOL, professor of anatomy at the University of Pennsylvania, was on May 2 elected president of the Pennsylvania chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi.

AT the annual banquet of the Alumni Association of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, held on May 14, there was presented to the college an oil portrait of Professor Joseph P. Remington, given in honor of his thirty-fifth anniversary as member of the faculty.

DR. L. R. ABRAMS, of Stanford University, has been granted a leave of absence to enable

him to review the manuscripts of a series of volumes in course of preparation by the Cree Publishing Company, giving a popular account of the plant-breeding work of Mr. Luther Burbank. Dr. Abrams moved to Santa Rosa, Cal., and assumed his new duties on May 1.

DR. EDWARD CAIRD, the master of Balliol College, Oxford, has been compelled by ill health to resign the mastership, to which he was elected in 1893, in succession to Professor Jowett, having been formerly fellow of Merton College and professor of moral philosophy in the University of Glasgow.

CHARLES C. ADAMS, of the University of Cincinnati, has resigned the directorship of the museum of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History.

PLANS have recently been perfected for a detailed and systematic investigation of the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain stratigraphy and paleontology, several State Surveys, including North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi acting in cooperation with the United States Geological Survey in the studies. The aim of the work is to determine the extent of the subdivisions recognized in New Jersey and Maryland on the north and Alabama on the south, to determine their relations to one another, and in general to establish satisfactory correlations throughout the district between the Potomac and the Mississippi River. Economic studies, especially on the phosphates, will also be made incidentally. The general supervision of the work rests with a board of supervising geologists, consisting of the state geologists in the Coastal Plain districts and the chief geologist and chief hydrographer of the national survey, Dr. W. B. Clark being chairman. The field work is in charge of Mr. M. L. Fuller, who will put seven parties into the field the coming summer. It is hoped to complete the investigation in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida during the next year, while the work in the remaining states will be finished in 1908 and 1909.

THE medical corps of the navy has not been able to get enough surgeons to meet the needs